

to join will be about 500, which Number he proposed to increase to 700 or 800 but I know not whether this last Letter from home will not make him decline it as there are thereby no Directions given how they are to be formed, or on what footing or Establishment they are to be raised, this Doubt & ignorance makes us wait with impatience the Arrival of those Regiments & farther & particular Instructions from His Majesty: as to levying any number of Men I conceive we shall not find it difficult especially as the Assemblies of this Province & Virginia have passed a Sort of Press Act, but the Difficulty will be to get money from the Assemblies to support them after they are raised; indeed this I look upon as impracticable or not to be expected without the Legislature of Great Britain shall make a Law to be binding on all these several Colonies & oblige them to raise such a Fund, as may be thought expedient for the Support of their own Troops. This is all the Intelligence I can send your Ldp as to these publick Transactions & the present posture of Affairs beside an Account of the Assemblies of New York & the Jersies having refused to grant any Supplies unless their respective Gov^{rs} will consent to a new Emission of Paper Money which it seems they are both by His Majesty's Instructions positively forbid to do without a suspending Clause till His Majesty's Approbation can be signified. As to your Ldp's private Interest I am greatly concerned at being obliged to acquaint your Ldp that it will be I am afraid considerably affected by these Disturbances & the Danger that appears to threaten Us, to advance the price of any of your Ldp's Land that remains unsold will I doubt be rendered impracticable & the Vicinity of the Enemy to the frontier Counties where most of the Vacant Land lies has already very sensibly lessened the number of Applications to your Ldp's Land Office; but I have the pleasure to acquaint your Ldp that I have a prospect of being able to advance the Rent of your Ldp's mannour in this County from £3. 15 to £5. 7 100 Acres as the Leases under which the Tenants at present occupy terminate.

I am &c.

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

Ian^y 12. 1755.

Sir

I am not a little sorry at being obliged to acquaint you that I have found the Apprehensions I intimated to you in my two last Letters but too well founded, as you will learn from the perusal of the Journals of the Upper & Lower Houses proceedings last Session which I take this Opportunity of transmitting. I am persuaded that when the Vote for granting the